General Information

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Response Date:	8/26/04
Classification Code:	A -- Research and Development

Contracting Office Address

NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 210.6, Greenbelt, MD 20771

Background

The Land Remote Sensing Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-555) directed Landsat Program Management (now an interagency partnership between the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)) to assess options for managing a successor system to Landsat 7 including: (1) private sector funding and management; (2) an international consortium; (3) funding and management by the United States Government; and (4) a cooperative effort between the United States Government and the private sector. The Law expressed a preference for funding and management by the private sector. Pursuant to the Law, NASA released a Request For Proposal (RFP) to establish a partnership with the private sector, known as the Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM), on January 6, 2003. NASA cancelled the solicitation on September 26, 2003, following an evaluation of the responses to the RFP. NASA decided that awarding a contract was not in the best interest of the U.S. Government on the basis of proposal evaluations.

Although a final decision on continuity options has not been made, one of the options the Government is considering as a long-term solution to ensuring Landsat data continuity is to migrate the Landsat measurement to the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) as an operational measurement. This would necessitate the measurement to be migrated to an 828km mid-morning orbit, with the earliest launch predicted with a Landsat imager to be at the end of calendar year 2009. The government may also consider an earlier stand-alone mission to minimize any risk to Landsat data continuity.

Description

Taking these factors into consideration, NASA is hereby soliciting innovative approaches for development and incorporation of a new Operational Land Imager (which the government has currently labeled OLI) for the NPOESS in the event the government decides to procure OLI instrument(s) for flight on NPOESS.

NASA is also soliciting inventive approaches for a potential stand-alone mission solution to minimize risk to Landsat data continuity. Industry is urged to develop and provide innovative concepts, technical and/or management approaches, plans, questions and/or comments related to maximizing efficiency, minimizing schedules (thus minimizing continuity breaks), and any other ideas to minimize the risk of a Landsat data gap. Critical issues of the concept's risk and cost should also be addressed. For stand-alone mission approaches, potential sources should be able to describe how their approach for Landsat maintains sufficient continuity (per P.L. 102-555) by:

a. Providing science quality Landsat data (see the attached Operational Landsat Imager (OLI) Specification, section 4.2) as early as possible.
b. Minimizing or eliminating gaps between the projected life time of current Landsats and future systems.
c. Enabling equivalent or reduced product prices for Landsat data users.
d. Describing an approach(s) to transitioning their Landsat concept to NPOESS (from the earliest NPOESS LRD of 12/09, to an appropriate time later). A sample OLI specification, based on ALI technology and NPOESS interfaces, is attached as an example of instrument integration on NPOESS, for your reference.
e. Describing innovative government-offeror interaction, insight, and/or teaming necessary to ensure proper integration of the proposed Landsat concept on the operational NPOESS spacecraft.

Additional information may be accessed through the LDCM web site (http://ldcm.nasa.gov).

The government is also interested in potential source's perspectives on the benefits of, or alternatives to, utilization of the Advanced Landsat Imager (ALI) technology developed by NASA/GSFC for Earth Observer-1 mission recognizing the timeliness requirements associated with this mission.

Data specifications describing characteristics of Landsat data, a potential OLI specification and a potential Statement of Work (SOW) are attached for reference purposes only. NASA welcomes comments on the information in this call including attached documentation.

No solicitation currently exists; therefore, do not request a copy of the solicitation. If a solicitation is released it will be synopsized in FedBizOpps and on the NASA Acquisition Internet Service. It is the potential offeror's responsibility to monitor these sites for the release of any solicitation or synopsis.

Interested offerors/vendors having the required specialized capabilities to meet the above requirements should submit a capability statement indicating their ability to perform all aspects of the effort described herein. Interested

offerors/vendors should also submit a capability statement indicating their ability to perform all aspects of any effort described by that offeror/vendor.

Responses must include the following: name and address of firm, size of business; average annual revenue for past 3 years and number of employees; ownership; whether they are large, small, small disadvantaged, 8(a), HUBZone, and/or woman-owned.

If NASA proceeds with a solicitation for either or both solutions, there may not be a draft RFP release and this will be the only opportunity to comment on the documentation listed above. Any questions or comments should be sent to the point of contact defined below and must include the name and address of the firm.

NOTE: The content of the RFP and the period of performance of the resulting contract are still under review and may change. The Government is pursuing approval for a deviation to the NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (NFS) 1817.204-(e), 5-Year Limitation on Contracts for this procurement. Offerors should provide comments/questions to the RFI documents as posted recognizing that the deviation could impact the acquisition strategy and RFP.

This synopsis is for information and planning purposes and is not to be construed as a commitment by the Government nor will the Government pay for information solicited. Respondents will not be notified of the results of the evaluation. Respondents deemed fully qualified will be considered in any resultant solicitation for the requirement.

All those companies qualifying as a small disadvantage, 8(a), HUBZone, and/or woman-owned should submit capability statements to Patricia Dombrowski, NASA/GSFC Code 210.6, Greenbelt, MD 20771 or Patricia.M.Dombrowski@nasa.gov, no later than 8/19/04. All other inquires shall be submitted no later than 8/26/04 to the same point of contact. Please reference Solicitation Number NNG04064128L in any response.

Point of Contact

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